28. (Newly Added) The method of claim 27 in which step (a) includes obtaining, from the appliance provider, the appliance at the special purchase price that is lower than a conventional purchase price of the appliance; and

step (f) includes charging the user the predetermined fee for the amount of power accumulated in step (e) at a higher rate than a conventional rate charged by the electric power provider for consumed electricity.

29. (Newly Added) The method of claim 27 in which step (c) includes installing a power management unit at the location of the appliance operating in step (b) to measure the power consumed by the appliance, and

step (g) includes providing another portion of the calculated fee charged to the user to an installer of the power measurement unit.

Respectfully Submitted,

Allan Ratner, Reg. Vo. 19,717 Attorney for Applicants

AR/ebf

Enclosures: Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

Dated: November 1, 2001

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The Assistant Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. 18-0350 of any fees associated with this communication.

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November 1, 200

Allan Ratner